

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 28 September, 1995 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chambers, Lugar, Cumnock.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors G Turnbull (Chair), J Boyd, R Brailsford, D Fulton, J Knapp, A McIntyre, I Reeves, E Ross, G Smith and D Sneller.

**ATTENDING:** D Montgomery (Chief Executive), G Fraser, S Chorley (Director of Development Services), A Neish (Head of Planning), R Paton (Head of Economic Development), W Taylor (Head of Roads & Transportation), D Campbell (Head of Public Relations & Marketing).

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors T Farrell, R McDill, D Reid.

**1. MINUTES OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THURSDAY 17 AUGUST 1995**

There was submitted and noted the minutes of the Development Services Committee of Thursday 17 August, 1995 (issued).

**2. AYRSHIRE JOINT STRUCTURE PLAN COMMITTEE**

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services:

- (a) notifying the Committee that the order proposing Ayrshire as a Structure Plan area has been laid before Parliament; and
- (b) seeking approval for proposals, agreed at officer level by the three Ayrshire authorities, for the setting up of a Joint Structure Plan Committee.

After discussion, when concern was expressed about the proposed disaggregation of planning staff by Strathclyde Regional Council and the likely staffing deficit which would result, the Committee agreed to:

- (i) participation in an Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Committee with the Chair attending future meetings;
- (ii) form a Working Group of elected members of the three authorities to draw up terms of reference for the Joint Structure Plan Committee, including its role in development control, its budget, initial work programme and staffing arrangements, for the consideration of each Council; and
- (iii) make a formal approach to Strathclyde Regional Council expressing the Committee's concern with regard to the proposed disaggregation of planning staff.

**3. ROAD SAFETY**

There were submitted reports (issued) by the Director of Development Services and the Head of Roads and Transportation reviewing the statutory requirements of the authority with respect to road safety and the approach currently being undertaken through the Regional Council's Road Safety Plan procedure. After discussion the Committee agreed:

- (a) to appoint the Head of Roads and Transportation as the Road Safety Officer for East Ayrshire Council with responsibility for liaison with the police on Road Safety issues;
- (b) that the Road Safety Plan for East Ayrshire be prepared in conjunction with other relevant Council departments by the Head of Roads and Transportation for consideration at a future meeting;
- (c) that proposals for the involvement of the Council's Local Committees in the identification of Road Safety issues and the implementation of the Road Safety Plan be prepared by the Head of Roads and Transportation; and
- (d) that with regard to traffic calming measures, future resources should initially be targeted upon sites with significant pedestrian injury accidents and those where high risk factors are assessed. Thereafter other accident sites and sites where there would be environmental benefits, should be treated as resources allow.

#### **4. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES - EUROPEAN FUNDING**

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services outlining the principal business support schemes sustained by substantial European Grants which are to be inherited from Strathclyde Regional Council.

After discussion the Committee agreed that:

- (a) a report highlighting transitional programme issues should be prepared and presented to the next meeting; and
- (b) the Council endorse the provisional bids for ESF and ERDF funding being submitted by Strathclyde Regional Council in the current round of European Funding applications thereby ring fencing funds for the new Councils.

#### **5. MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF TRUNK ROADS - UPDATE**

With reference to the meeting of the Development Services Committee of 17 August, 1995, there was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services updating the Committee on the progress in establishing consortium arrangements intended to secure contracts for the management and maintenance of trunk roads within the Council's area.

After having heard the Director in relation to the proposed legal agreement to further the Clyde Premium Consortium and the key features of the proposed South West All Purpose Consortium the Committee agreed to:

- (a) approve the principles upon which it is proposed to base the Consortium bid for the South West All Purpose Consortia; and
- (b) authorise the Chief Executive to sign the proposed legal agreements, setting out the obligations of the members of the Consortium on the Council's behalf.

## **6. AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC FORUM**

There was submitted a letter (issued) from the Chief Executive of Cumnock and Doon Valley District Council requesting that the East Ayrshire Council nominate two elected members to represent the Council on the Ayrshire Economic Forum.

After discussion it was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee should represent the Council at future meetings of the Ayrshire Economic Forum.

## **7. PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES - UPDATE**

With reference to the meeting of the Development Services Committee of 17 August, 1995, there was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services:

- (a) informing the Committee of a meeting which was held with the Minister responsible, Lord James Douglas Hamilton, in order to seek re-consideration of the proposed exclusion of the Doon Valley and New Cumnock from the proposed PTA area;
- (b) outlining the issues to be considered in securing the Council's interests in the management arrangements for the PTA; and
- (c) seeking Committee approval for negotiation with the PTE in order to construct an agency arrangement intended to continue to secure public bus services in that area which might be excluded from the proposed PTA area.

After discussion the Committee agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Development Services should report further on the issues contained within the paper at paragraphs 5 (i) to 5 (iv);
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services to enter into discussions with the PTE in order to construct an agency arrangement for securing public bus services for those areas expected to be excluded from the proposed PTA area and to submit a further report regarding the outcome of their discussions in due course; and
- (iii) to refer the report to the Education Committee to consider establishing a further agency arrangement with the PTE for securing and monitoring school bus services throughout East Ayrshire.

## **8. DALMELLINGTON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT**

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services seeking the Committee's endorsement of a scheme proposed by Enterprise Ayrshire intended to train unemployed people in Dalmellington in information technology skills utilising the present Public Access Terminals and Open Access projects and requiring that these projects be maintained in some form for the duration of the training scheme.

After discussion the Committee agreed to endorse the project.

## **9. PROGRAMMES FOR PARTNERSHIP - POSTPONEMENT OF SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

With reference to the Policy and Resources Committee of 27 June, 1995, when that Committee agreed that East Ayrshire Council should submit proposals for a group of Priority Partnership Areas and that an inter agency group of officers develop relevant proposals, there was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Development Services advising the Committee of a postponement from November 1995 to March, 1996 by the Scottish Office, to the deadline for submissions and the implications of this decision for the East Ayrshire Council.

After discussion the Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the report; and
- (b) the proposal that East Ayrshire Council should submit its bid in January 1996.